

## SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1912: INVENTORY NO. 30; NOS. 32369 TO 33278.

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### INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

This number of the inventories contains some material of rather unusual interest. It lists part of the collections made by Mr. Frank N. Meyer during his late expedition into Chinese Turkestan, covering particularly the material secured by him from the noted Russian plant breeder, Mr. I. V. Mijurin. It also contains notes regarding some promising forage grasses collected by Mr. C. V. Piper, Agrostologist in Charge of the Office of Forage-Crop Investigations, during his preliminary exploration of India in search of forage grasses particularly adapted to our Southern States, and it also describes a number of Spanish fruit varieties that Mr. Walter T. Swingle, of the Office of Crop Physiology and Breeding Investigations, discovered during his recent trip to Spain, which was made by him in company with Dr. L. Trabut, the veteran plant breeder and horticulturist of Algeria.

In the spring of 1903 Mr. G. Onderdonk, one of the veteran nurserymen of southern Texas, made a trip into Mexico for the purpose of securing varieties of Mexican peaches and apricots which he knew existed in the mountainous regions of the central provinces. A collection of these fruits which he made was planted at San Antonio, Tex., and Nos. 32372 to 32380 of this present inventory are selected seedlings from the trees grown as a result of this expedition. They are said to be late-ripening sorts, resembling somewhat the Honey peach, but are later in ripening. These may prove of unusual value for the southern peach belt.

Of Mr. Meyer's collection the seeds and plants most worthy of notice are as follows: No. 32389, seeds of *Medicago falcata*, which in Mr. Meyer's opinion (and in this he agrees with Prof. N. E. Hansen) is likely to prove of especial value in those situations where the crowns of the plants are damaged by close grazing and by the hoofs of animals; No. 32408 is a variety of *Medicago sativa* selected by Mr. Bogdan at Krassny Koot, one of the best of his hybrids; No. 32416,